From: Mary J. Whitney [Bacmjw@aol.com] Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 12:02 PM

To: fgc@fgc.ca.gov

Cc: Flukefound@aol.com; mlpacomments@resources.ca.gov **Subject:** [MLPA Comments] Bodega Bay Meeting April 13, 2007

California Fish and Game Commission Hearing Bodega Bay, CA April 13, 2007

Honorable Marine Life Protection Act Commissioners,

Life in the Oceans is a matter of World Food Security. Fish are needed to feed the world. Much of the world has no choice, fish is all they have.

The data from varied respected sources are crystal clear that there is a global decline in population and physical size of fish. Also clear is that providing carefully chosen protected areas for fish allow them to grow in size and thus populations prosper.

Residents of the Central Coast and the MLPA Commissioners, have not only an opportunity to change the future but a deadly serious obligation to set the bar high and set a very strong precedent for the preservation of marine life. Thus, Fisheries will ultimately survive, jobs will be saved and the world will have fish to eat.

August 2006 marked the MLPA Commissioner's unanimous decision to support the "Preferred Alternative" marine protected areas. Now, if this Pilot Project of our Governor's Marine Life Protection Act Blue Ribbon Task Force decides to loosen regulations, cut the efficacy, disrupt the balance, and knowingly undermine the entire MPA Network process, then we will all carry a crushing burden.

As a wealthy world leader with plenty of food choices, the United States and therefore California should set the example. Marine life feeds most of the globe. Healthy fish populations equal healthy human populations.

Please do not weaken the "Preferred Alternative". Please protect this important resource for future generations.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mary J Whitney Concerned Citizen Founder, Fluke Foundation Carmel, CA